

23 August 1967

NOTE FOR: Mr. Duckett

1. If you wish I will proceed on a number of items pertaining to the Agency R&D program which will complete the groundwork so you can quickly shape a recommended R&D program for 1970 when you return from vacation for the Deputy Director's consideration late in September.

2. I can arrange individual sessions with Deputy Directors to explain the gist of the approach to coordinating the R&D program and obtain the name of the guy they would like to have me work with in working out details. This would include identification of the people who will coordinate the technical fields. Shall I proceed to do this?

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3. [] and company briefed the PPB'ers at 4 o'clock last Friday on their activities in getting the Directorate ADP system into action. The date for this remains like December, and the organization of the data, etc., as described will not permit the required job to be done (e. g., no provision was made in the appropriate form for designating the type of research or development). Although concerned at the present regression, I am confident that the details can be quickly resolved and a scheme worked out with OCS which will at least cut that December date in half, although some external contract assistance may be required. Shall I proceed to straighten this out and line up any required assistance which may be required with OCS so that it can take off with your approval when you return?

4. An extraordinary number game continues to be played between the Programming, Budgeting, Finance, Logistics, etc., camps. I don't believe this is intentional: it just grew that way. It does provide an unbelievable impediment to efficiently planning and processing the R&D program. Everybody has a hand in it, but no one appears to be very effective in tying a solution together on an Agency-wide basis -- PPB appears to have come pretty close at times. If you have no objection, I would like to work with PPB, Office of Finance, the Offices -- in fact everybody who is interested to firmly pin down the present practices and develop

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realistic alternatives for getting out of this maze. Most of the ideas that are advanced block one hole in the dike, but unfortunately give rise to other holes although there is no inherent reason why this has to be the case. I believe the R&D coordination requirement could provide a non-parochial way out for some of the entrenched groups. Shall I proceed to line this up?

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